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Atlanta, Inc.

January 5, 2010



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Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: GN Docket No. 09-191

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

I am writing you on behalf of 100 Black Men of Atlanta, GA. Our mission is to provide support and improve the quality of life for African Americans, and youth in particular, in the Atlanta community. Our Learning Resource Center which houses forty-eight computers specifically for the use of our students is our most valuable tool in preparing them for higher education. I am certain I don't have to tell you that access to high speed broadband Internet services is vital to that mission. Broadband access can mean access to educational, occupational, economic and health care resources that may not be otherwise available in our community. It can mean civic participation and having a voice. It can be critical to preparation for the workforce and keeping kids in school, all of which are vital to ensuring economic opportunity for our youth.

Of course, there have been times when some people did not have access to key infrastructures, and they made it. Electricity and telephones are some good examples. Yet, today, the Internet is THE tool for empowerment, and African Americans, particularly African American youth can no longer compete without fast access and adoption of it. I applaud the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") for taking steps to encourage universal access to broadband. It is vital to keeping our youth connected and empowered.

As the FCC considers the Open Internet proceeding, I hope you will keep these priorities in mind. We ask our private sector to build, manage and improve the networks that deliver high speed Internet access. Even in tough economic times, they continue to invest – creating jobs in their industries, but also providing platforms for additional good jobs in our communities.

Our policies must continue to encourage that deployment and investment. I understand that certain open Internet standards are in place today and are working well. Why jeopardize the continued rollout of broadband technology? It is too important to our future and to ensuring increased adoption and access to broadband technology.

Sincerely,

John T. Grant, Jr. CEO & President